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WOE IS MEOW

CATS ARE TWICE AS LIKELY AS DOGS TO END UP IN THE SHELTER SYSTEM, A NEW REPORT FINDS, AND RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS SAY PEOPLE ARE TO BLAME PAGES 4-5



HALIFAX

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Gids from the Jubilee Children's Centre drop off their donations to Mel Boutilier, director of Parker Street Food and Furniture B

2 arrested in HRM homicide

Police search properties for evidence. One location close to burned camp in Sheet Harbour, another on Herring Cove Road

Police are being tight-lipped about arrests made in connection with a Sheet Harbour homicide case.

Around 9 a.m. Tuesday morning, RCMP arrested a 45-year-old woman in Halifax and a 61-year-old man in Sheet Harbour, related to the deaths of two men last week

Two bodies were found in the wreckage of a burned camp building in Sheet Harbour around 2:30 p.m. on Dec. 12. Two days later, police declared the case a homicide.

Spokesman Cpl. Scott MacRae of the RCMP said the two people arrested were being interviewed Tuesday and remained in custody.

"Any information on what led up to the arrests is not being released at this time," MacRae said.

He added because it's an ongoing investigation, details around the relationship between the victims and the two arrested can't be released.

An autopsy was performed Friday, but MacRae said forensic tests are still being done, and he won't say how the men died or release their names.

We have been working passionately with the families, and we're comfortable we do know who the two men are," MacRae said.

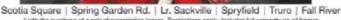
On Tuesday afternoon, police were searching two properties for evidence in the case. One was close to the burned camp in Sheet Harbour, and the other was at 450 Herring Cove Rd.

MacRae said it was too early to tell if charges would be laid, but he did say police believe the homicide case to be an isolated incident. HALEY RYAN/METRO













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Hefty fees

Province, board to split legal costs of removing sexoffender teacher

Nova Scotia's Education Department will pay half of the legal costs that a school board incurred while attempting to keep a teacher who pleaded guilty to sexual offences out of the classroom.

Officials with the South Shore Regional School Board said Monday they would incur \$47,000 in fees from a judicial review against Peter Speight, while the department would cover \$116,000 for other legal costs.

But the acting director of communications for the Education Department said Tuesday there was a misunderstanding between the school board and the provincial government over how the costs would be paid.

Dan Harrison says the matter is now resolved and that the school board and government will each pay \$81,500 towards the legal costs.

Speight pleaded guilty to committing an indecent act in 2009, but an arbitrator decided he should get his job back at an elementary school in New Germany, N.S.

That decision was upheld in a judicial review, but some parents were outraged when the board attempted to return Speight to the classroom.

Speight recently agreed to resign his position and give up his teacher's licence in Nova Scotia in return for a confidential settlement.

On the web

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Be concerned about budget, expert says

Money talk.

Professor says Dexter government has lost confidence in economy



ANDREW
RANKIN
andrew rankin@metronews.ca

Nova Scotians should be concerned about the province's plan to balance the budget at all costs come spring, says a Halifax-based political ex-

pert.

"Back to balance is the political agenda of the government; it is not necessarily a valid public-policy objective," said Jeffrey MacLeod, associate professor of political science at Mount Saint Vincent University.

"It is in their interest to frame deficit payments as a crisis. The real tragedy would be to have valued public services gutted based on this flawed political premise." Last week, the province

Last week, the province projected a \$277-million deficit for the end of this fiscal year, \$66 million more than it forecast last spring when the budget was tabled. Revenue is forecast to be \$90 million less than expected, including a \$62 million decrease in personal income tax.

Nova Scotia Finance Minister Maureen MacDonald was in Ottawa Monday where she said she was concerned about the "preliminary data" she received on the amount of federal payments planned for the province for 2013-14. This fiscal year the province

Quoted



"We are still on track to balance the budget. The hill

continues to get a little steeper."

Finance Minister Maureen MacDonald

would receive \$1.6 billion. She said on Tuesday she

couldn't be more specific because her department is still "crunching the numbers."
"We are concerned that

"We are concerned that Nova Scotia will be receiving slightly less than perhaps we had been anticipating," she said.

Still, she said her govern-

ment under Premier Darrell Dexter is en route to fulfilling its four-year promies of delivering a balanced budget in the spring

budget in the spring.

But MacLeod says if that happens it will come at the expense of essential social programs. He says the province's reliance on federal money shows it is in panic mode and has lost faith in the province's economy as a significant source of revenue.

"The government has to get more confidence in Nova Scotians and support innovation and economic growth: That's the failing," said Mac-Leod.

"They are cutting programs willy-nilly and cutting the deficit on the back of essential programs, particularly education."

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Maritime Link. Province. Emera teaming up to force project approval: McNeil

A decision by Nova Scotia Power's parent company to spend more than \$1.5 billion to develop the Maritime Link before it gets regulatory approval shows the company and the province are trying to force the go-ahead of the project, says the leader of the province's opposition.

Liberal Leader Stephen Mc-Neil said Tuesday that Emera, the company pledging to build the subsea electricity link, and Premier Darrell Dexter are teaming up to give the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board no option but to approve the project, and that consumers will pay the price.

"Emera is prepared to spend hundreds of millions of dollars on a project that may not go forward, that doesn't make any sense. Most business operators wouldn't do that," said McNeil.

Emera sanctioned the project Monday at the same time that Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Kathy Dunderdale sanctioned the proposed \$7.7-billion Muskrat Falls project.

Meanwhile, McNeil said neither Emera or Dexter have been able to prove whether the project will result in lower power rates. andrew rankin/metro



Cats languishing in overburdened shelters

Not the cat's meow.

Advocates say too many owners adopt kittens, then abandon adults



RIITH DAVENPORT

A new report suggests Canada's animal shelters are drowning in a tidal wave of abandoned and aging cats.

The report, by the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, finds that cats are twice as likely as dogs to end up in the shelter system, but have a less than one per cent chance of being reunited with owners — compared to a 30 per cent chance for dogs.

That's overwhelming a burdened and - in Nova Scotia exclusively donor-funded system.

Local rescue organizations say the problem is complex, but say part of the blame goes to human failings: a lack of education, and short attention

span.
"If you go to most shelters, you'll see they're adult animals, but people are screaming for kittens all the time," said Darrold Gould, executive director of Bide Awhile in Dartmouth.

Gould said he turns away 30 to 40 people every day, looking to give up animals.

Nova Scotia SPCA executive director Kristin Williams said cat adoptions are up by 25 per cent in Halifax over 2011 — but intake is up by more than 38

She said most cats are the victims of abandonment, often left behind when the owner has to change homes.

"When we look at cats, there's a totally different value system there," she said. "We see them as more independent and less needy, but that's just not

Williams encouraged potential owners to adopt from rescue organizations, rather than taking in a "free" kitten from a friend or relative. "If you adopt from us tomorrow, it will cost

"If everyone would just be responsible for their pet ... then the problem becomes smaller."

Darrold Gould, director of Bide Awhile

\$175," she said. "But that cat comes with all its vaccinations, flea treatment, it's been spayed or neutered. You would spend more than \$500 for all of that on your 'free' cat.'

Controlling the population

Spay, neuter programs key

Local animal advocates say increased access to spay-andneuter programs is a critical part of reducing the cat population.

Linda Felix, founder of Spay Day in HRM, said 255 cats have been fixed in 20 months. She said it's already made a difference in some neighbourhoods

"It's not right that people consider cats so disposable and throw them away, but at least if they do, they can't reproduce and you don't have these colonies growing," she said.

The SPCA will open a clinic attached to its Burnside shelter in the spring that will also offer spaying and neutering to low-income owners.

Executive director Kristin Williams said it's critical to stem the flood of kittens in Halifax, noting even the environment is working against local shelters.

"In the past, breeding season would start in late spring and be over in early fall," she said. "This year we had new litters appearing as late as late November" **METRO**



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metronews.ca Wednesday, December 19, 2012



'Surprise' pets a bad idea. Adoption policies change to stop Christmas gifting

Some local rescue organizations say they're taking steps to ensure animals adopted out during the holiday season don't end up becoming repeat guests.

Bide Awhile's executive director said animals simply aren't adopted out until after Christmas.

"We don't let animals go out at Christmas time for gifts or stuff," said Darrold Gould. "Our feeling is that if you really want an animal, you can wait until the New Year."

Annette Armitage of the Animal Rescue Coalition said her organization gives some consideration given to circumstances, but generally adoptions are only allowed to people who have had an application pending for some time.

"You're not going to come to me today and say I need a pet for Joey for Christmas morning," she said.

"It's the spur-of-the-moment adoptions that end up in our system."

The SPCA doesn't limit

Informed decision

"Pets aren't disposable. Pets are for life."

Annette Armitage, Animal Rescue Coalition

adoptions over the holiday season. Executive director Kristin Williams said the adoption process provides enough scrutiny to be confident in potential owners.

"We believe in education, so we're going to ensure that it's an informed decision and give you all the tools you need for that to be a lifelong commitment," she said. "Sometimes when people are on vacation, making a transition like that is optimal timing."

Williams said the golden

Williams said the golden rule is to make sure everyone who will have to care for a pet is on board with bringing it into the home. "It should never be a sur-

"It should never be a surprise, it should always be an informed decision," she said.

RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO





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metronews.ca Wednesday, December 19, 2012 metr⊕ **NEWS**

Impaired driving. DUI numbers down in Halifax over last year

Either impaired driving is on the decline in Halifax, or the

culprits aren't getting caught. Police in Halifax stopped 61 impaired drivers between Dec. 1 and Dec. 18 this year, well below the 73 caught in the

same time period last year. A total of 110 people were charged in December 2012.

"We hope that all the work that's been done over the years by everyone who advocates against impaired driving is actually making sense," said Halifax Regional Police Cst. Pierre Bourdages. "One is too

The average number of impaired-driving arrests for December.

The number of arrests in December has bounced around a bit in the last five years, ranging from a high of 116 in 2007 to a low of 71 in 2008.

Bourdages said the patrols will remain in force in the run-up to New Year's Eve. RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO

Indecent act

Man exposes himself near **Dartmouth** cemetery

Halifax police are looking for a man who was walking around with his genitals exposed in Dartmouth on Monday

Police say at 2:40 p.m., a man was seen walking

in the area of St. Peter's Cemetery at the Dart-mouth Common while exposing his genitals. The area is close to Bicentennial School.

When officers arrived the man couldn't be located. He is described as in his mid-40s, five-footnine, medium build with a round face and slickedback blond hair. He was seen wearing a black jacket, grey hoodie and brown cargo pants. METRO

'Great things are going to happen': Food bank director

A second-degree murder charge has been dropped in the case of an 18-year-old accused of killing his mother in Chester Basin.

John Buckley was released from custody Tuesday after spending the past nine months behind bars.

The body of 57-year-old Victoria Brauns-Buckley was found inside her home on the Borgels Point Road on March 2, but it's not known how she died.

Her teenage son was ar-

Police say the investigation into the death of Victoria Brauns-Buckley remains

rested a week later and charged in relation to her death.

Crown lawyer Lloyd Tancock told reporters their case lacks sufficient evidence to obtain a conviction in the case. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Unsolved death. Charge dropped against teen in case of mother's death

Routine traffic stop leads to trafficking arrest

Drugs seized

RCMP in Pictou County seized 250 grams of cocaine during a traffic stop on Sunday at about 9:30 a.m. on Highway 104 in Thorburn. The driver, a 51-year-old man from Barrington Passage, Shelburne County, was arrested for possession for the purpose of trafficking. The man ap peared in Pictou Provincial Court on Monday and was released. NEW GLASGOW NEWS

Concrete offer

N.S. offers \$336K to firm in hopes of creating jobs

The Nova Scotia government is offering up to \$336,000 to a Halifax concrete technology firm in the hopes of creating two dozen jobs. Economic Development Minister Percy Paris says the money would go to CarbonCure Technologies over five years. The money would come from Nova Scotia Business Inc., a Crown business-development agency. THE CANADIAN PRESS

"We will not knowingly leave anybody that needs a dinner go without one."

Mel Boutilier on his Christmas dinner hoxes

RYAN Sporting a grey cap and glasses, Mel Boutilier

Holiday spirit.

out to families

HALEY

Over 1,100 turkey-

dinner boxes going

weaves his way through dozens of busy volunteers Tuesday passing stuffing and cranberry sauce along a human chain, past stacks of nicely wrapped food boxes.

"I have a saying around

"It's up a little bit from last year," said Boutilier, said the executive

director with the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank. "Great things are going to happen."

On Tuesday, the back room of the food bank was transformed into a hive of activity with people rushing around to fill over 1,100 boxes with everything a family needs for a holiday turkey dinner.

about 100 more from a thousand boxes in 2011.

Boutilier, an Order of Canada recipient who turns 85 in January, said Christmas can be a very stressful time for those who don't have much income.

On Thursday, families coming in to pick up their dinner boxes can also look through tables of brandnew toys and clothes for their kids.

"Sometimes have differences, and when they get together and enjoy Christmas dinner together, the feeling changes," Boutilier said.

Some begin donating food early. Over a dozen preschoolers from the Jubilee Road Children's Centre handed over non-perishable food items to the food bank on Tuesday.

"Last year they dropped off food in a Superstore box but were disappointed they didn't see anyone collect it," said Jubilee Road staff member Theresa Viktoria.

"They were so excited to come today. They really wanted to see where the food was going.'

Feed Nova Scotia numbers up in 2012

The number of families seeking support from Feed Nova Scotia is up.

There were 6,800 seeking help as of Tuesday, compared to 6,652 last year, said Dianne Swinemar, executive director of Feed Nova Scotia.

'That was really interesting. You're never sure how the numbers are going to come in," Swinemar said.

"The closer you get to

Christmas, of course, that's when families start to panic that they haven't got an application in or things change in their life.

Although Swinemar said Feed Nova Scotia ended last year in a deficit, and had a shortage of food this fall, the last couple of weeks have seen their donations

"There's been a tremen-

dous increase in foot traffic." Swinemar said, adding that their recent Stuff-A-Bus donations were up 34 per

Swinemar said the households with children will be taken care of with turkey hampers for the holidays, and any single people who miss out will still have a hot meal at a soup kitchen.

HALEY RYAN/METRO



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Republicans open up to gun debate

Taking the first step.

Gun manufacturers see shares continue to drop as politicians on both sides of the aisle shift stances following Friday's shooting

Some Republicans now say they're willing to discuss the politically treacherous issue of gun control, along with mental health issues and violent video games, while President Barack Obama said he supports efforts in Congress to reinstate an assault weapons ban in the wake of last week's Connecticut school shooting.

The massacre, one of the worst mass shootings in U.S history, has rattled the usual national dialogue on guns in America, where public opinion had shifted against tougher gun control in recent years, and the gun lobby is a powerful political force.

Obama has long supported reinstating the assault weapons ban, which expired in 2004, but was quiet on the issue during his first term. He has said he believes the Con-stitution's Second Amendment guarantees an individual the right to bear arms.

The president was not expected to take any formal action on guns before the end of the year, given the all-consuming efforts to resolve tax and deficit-reduction talks



and nominate new Cabinet secretaries.

The most powerful supporter of gun owners, the National Rifle Association, broke its silence Tuesday. After a self-imposed media blackout that left many wondering how it would respond to the killings, it said in a statement that its members were "shocked, saddened and heartbroken by the news of the horrific and senseless murders.

The group also said it wanted to give families time to mourn before making its first public statements. The organization pledged "to help to make sure this never happens again" and has scheduled a news conference for Friday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Washington Post/ABC News poll conducted over the weekend showed 54 per cent in the U.S. favour tougher laws, about the same as the 51 per cent in favour earlier in the year. Seven in 10 are opposed to banning the sale of handguns to anyone except law enforcement officers, the highest percentage since 1999.

A complicated issue

"Put guns on the table ... put video games on the table, put mental health on the table."

Republican Congressman Jack Kingston

Claims self-defence

Student, 11, brings aun to school

Authorities say an 11-yearold boy caught with a gun at school in Utah told administrators he brought the weapon to defend himself in case of an attack similar to the mass shooting last week at a Connecticut elementary school. School officials say the boy has been arrested on suspicion of possessing a dangerous weapon and aggravated assault after other students told police he pointed the handgun at them. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bushmaster rifles

Firearms maker put up for sale

The largest firearms maker in the United States said Tuesday it is being put up for sale by its owner, which called last week's school shooting a "watershed event" in the national debate over gun control. Freedom Group International makes Bushmaster rifles, the weapons thought to have been used in Friday's killings in Connecticut. Shares in publicly traded gun makers were dropping for a third straight day. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quebec. Slain teacher's relatives call American gun laws 'revolting'

The Newtown school massacre has left grieving Canadian relatives of one murdered teacher denouncing American gun laws.

Several of the Rousseau family in Quebec's Eastern Townships will be going down to Connecticut for the funeral of Lauren Rousseau, a substitute teacher whose father was born in Quebec.

"It's revolting how easy it is to obtain firearms that's what's so infuri-

said the victim's uncle, Francois Rousseau. He and several relatives will be heading down for the funeral of his brother's daughter.

Lauren Rousseau, 30, was born in the U.S. Her Canadian-born father, Gilles Rousseau, told Radio-Canada that he wanted to see his daughter's body but was informed by authorities that it would not be possible. The canadian press

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metronews.ca Wednesday, December 19, 2012 metr⊕ **NEWS**

Instagram sex slur sparks riot at school

Anonymous posting.

Mounted police move in as anger explodes after teenage girls were called 'sluts' and 'whores'

ARON **ANDERSSON**

An anonymous Instagram account that posted images of teenage girls and called them "sluts" and "whores" has sparked riots outside a Swedish high school.

The account showed more than 200 images of teens reportedly as young as 13.

It contained details of alleged sexual activity.

Hundreds of teens gathered outside the high school in Gothenburg where the alleged owner of the account is believed to attend.

Police, some on horseback, went to the school as students threw objects and jumped on cars. One girl was hit in the face, another was attacked and kicked by four girls, a witness told Metro.

saw one girl being kicked in the head. She was on the ground, there were four against one," said 17-year old student Janina Niemi.

Some 27 people were ar-rested. A 17-year old girl has been taken into custody. suspected of having started the İnstagram account.



girls. calling them "sluts" and "whores." HENRIK BRUNNSGARD/METRO SWEDEN

He weighs 450lb

Obese inmate spared death

The decision by Ohio's governor to spare a morbidly obese death-row inmate on legal grounds unrelated to the prisoner's weight means executions will likely carry on in the state next vear.

Gov. John Kasich on Monday commuted the death sentence of Ronald Post to life without the possibility of parole, sparing him for the 1983 shooting death of Elyria motel clerk Helen Vantz in a robbery.

Kasich's decision to grant Post mercy mirrored the recommendation by the state parole board. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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"Manual Shift" 2013 Toyota Matrix and 2013 Toyota Corolla available only. "O'Regan's will issue a \$500 voucher towards the purchase of 4 new snow tires. Offers available for December 21 & 22 only

metronews.ca Wednesday, December 19, 2012

No hidden fees

Airfare ads must show total ticket price, feds say

The federal government says advertised airfares for flights originating in Canada must include all relevant fees so the travelling public can easily understand the total cost.

Transport Minister
Denis Lebel said advertised
prices for the public must
include all taxes, fees and
other charges so consumers can clearly see the total
cost of an airline ticket,
with no hidden fees. The
"all-in" price doesn't need
to include fees for optional
services such as in-flight entertainment, meals and baggage, but the price of the
options must be displayed.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Policy change

Instagram says photos won't end up in advertising

Instagram, the popular photo-sharing service that Facebook bought this year, says it will revise a planned update to its service agreement after confusion about its intent led to widespread user complaints.

At issue is whether users' photos can be part of advertisements, on and off Instagram. The company said in a blog post Tuesday that it has no plans to put users' photos in advertisements. That said, Instagram maintains that it was created to become a business and would like to experiment with various forms of advertisements to make money. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Air Canada Rouge takes flight July 1

Discount travel. New carrier will focus on leisure travel market, with destinations in Europe, Caribbean

Air Canada is jumping into the low-cost leisure travel market with the launch of its new Rouge airline, which will begin flying on Canada Day to destinations in Europe and the Caribbean.

The airline will start with flights from Toronto to Venice and Edinburgh — two destinations that currently aren't served by Air Canada — and will serve Athens from Toronto and Montreal.

Air Canada's existing flights to Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Costa Rica will be flown by the discount carrier from Toronto.

The destinations are areas where demand for leisure travel has been growing, said Ben Smith, Air Canada's chief commercial officer. But many



of Air Canada Leisure Group, second right, unveil new leisure airline Air Canada Rouge in downtown Toronto on Tuesday. AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

are routes that didn't generate adequate profits under Air Canada's existing cost structure.

"The creation of this carrier is to assist us in serving many destinations that our existing model does not work on a competitive basis," Smith said.

The airline says flights to Venice, Edinburgh and Athens start at "special introductory fares" of \$949 round-trip, including all taxes, fees, charges and surcharges.

Flights to the Dominican Republic and Jamaica will start at \$269, one-way, while Cuba is offered starting at \$538 round-trip. All the introductory fares, which are available until Dec. 25, are based on Toronto departures. THE CAMADIAN PRESS

BVO. Drink additive is safe, Health Canada says

Major soft-drink makers and Health Canada say the use of brominated vegetable oil in Canadian beverages is safe, despite a growing movement elsewhere to ban its use. The additive, which is used

The additive, which is used to cloud and stop separation in some drinks, has been banned in most of Europe for decades and Japan recently discontinued its use. However, BVO continues to be used in popular drinks sold in Canada, including some flavours of Gatorade, Powerade, Fresca, Mountain Dew and Amp Energy Drink.

BVO is classified as a food additive, but there is limited knowledge of its composition, researchers have said. It does contain bromine, which is also in flame retardants and has been found to build up in body lipids. A Health Canada spokesman said there are no health risks associated with BVO when it is used according to regulations, which sets out that 15 parts per million can be used in citrus or spruce-flavoured beverages.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Market Minute



Natural gas: \$3.39 US (+3¢) **Dow Jones:** 13,350.96 (+115.57)



15X 12,334.34 (+52.99)



OIL \$87.93 US (+73¢)



GOLD \$1,670.70 US (-\$27.50)

Israel, Google launch Dead Sea Scrolls digital library

More than six decades since the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls — and thousands of years after they were written — Israel on Tuesday put 5,000 images of the ancient biblical artifacts online in a partnership with Google.

ship with Google.

The digital library contains the Book of Deuteronomy, which includes the second listing of the Ten Commandments, and a portion of the first chapter of the Book of Genesis, dated to the first century B.C.

Israeli officials said this is part of an attempt by the custodians of the celebrated manuscripts — often criti-

Quoted

"Only five conservators worldwide are authorized to handle the Dead Sea Scrolls. Now, everyone can touch the scroll on screens around the globe."

Shuka Dorfman, director of the Israel Antiquities Authority

cized for allowing them to be monopolized by small circles of scholars — to make them broadly available.

The scrolls, considered one of the most significant archaeological finds of the 20th century, are thought to have been written or collected by an ascetic Jewish sect that fled Jerusalem to the desert

2,000 years ago and settled at Qumran, near the shore of the Dead Sea. The hundreds of manuscripts found in caves near the site have shed light on the development of the Hebrew Bible and the origins of Christianity.

Google says the new digit-

Google says the new digital library took two years to assemble. The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Online shopping

Santa's little helper: Canada Post chalks up delivery record

Canada Post delivered a single-day record of one million parcels across Canada last Thursday, underlining moves by the federal Crown corporation to take advantage of a growing trend.

The single-day record represented an 11 per

cent increase over the previous year's busiest day, Canada Post said.

And with seven days left before Christmas Day, Canada Post expects to deliver an additional 4.4 million parcels by the evening of Dec. 24.

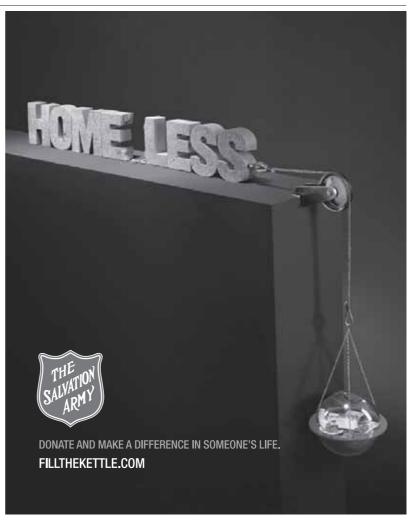
"Achieving this milestone confirms that we are successfully repositioning Canada Post to serve the emerging needs of Canadians," said Jacques Cote, group president of the physical delivery network at Canada Post.

In recent years, Canada Post has made major investments in new equipment.

"Our investments in modern equipment, flexible and motorized delivery methods, community mail and parcel boxes are paying off," Cote said.

He noted that an estimated \$8 billion worth of physical goods is ordered online in Canada each year for residential delivery, a figure forecasted to grow to more than \$15 billion by 2016.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



metronews.ca Wednesday, December 19, 2012 metr⊕ VOICES

CUDDLE PARTY MARKS END OF WORLD



Looking for something to do

the day the world ends?
How about a Cuddle Party?
There's one on the Last Day, this coming Friday, somewhere in Calgary. To ward off kuddle

krashers, you don't get to know the final location until you pay your 20 bucks and sign up. Then, apparently, you turn up in your pyjamas ready to cuddle. Or not.

WTF? You don't know about Cuddle Parties? Well, let me bring you up to speed. The Cuddle Party is the brainchild of two New York relationship counsellors (you're surprised?), Reid Mihalko and Marcia Baczynski, who started them in their "tiny Manhattan apartment" in 2004. They spread immediately to the Left Coast, and from there to Vancouver and Calgary, the apparent, er, hot bed of Canadian cud-

In a nutshell

The idea is to bring a bunch of people together, most of them total strangers, and create a group grope that stays on the disappointing side of sexuality throughout.

Those eastern bastards may have to freeze in the dark, but Calgary has Cuddle Power to keep it warm.

The idea is to bring a bunch of people together, most of them total strangers, and create a group grope that stays on the disappointing side of sexuality throughout.

Organizers are adamant. No sex. According to the Rules (and there are plenty of them), if you get turned on, just wait and it will go

away. So they say. Just to make sure: no alcohol or shorts allowed. Pyjamas with drawstrings — this is a lace-free zone.

The first 40 minutes of the event involves a presentation on How to Cuddle, giving leery participants enough time to work up the courage to cuddle some guy you might not care to sit next to on the bus, especially considering the

way he's looking at you.

But don't worry! By the end of the evening, you'll have discovered the Joy of Cuddling and will be prepared to cuddle anyone or anything. Or not. One of the features of the Cuddle Party is that it offers participants an opportunity to learn how to say NO in the clinch. Each touch essentially has to be negotiated in advance. If the cuddlee says yes (not yes! yes!) then the cuddler can proceed with some

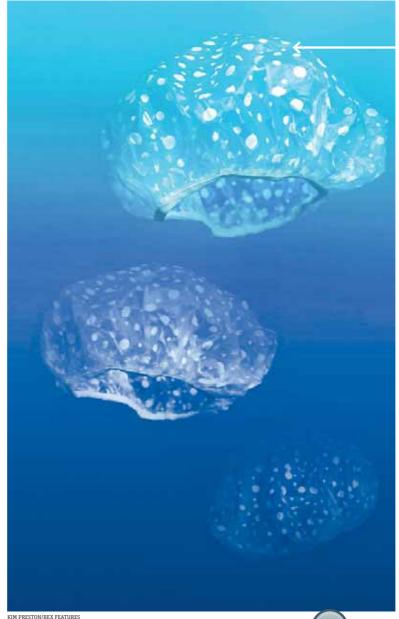
respectful, non-sexual touching.
This advanced course in touching strangers leads to a lot of (painfully) sincere, convoluted language from participant testimonials on the website cuddleparty.com about learning to say no in order to say yes, or is it the other way around? And about how cuddling is not always about sex and various other things guys will say when they hope to get lucky.

Look, I can't think of anything I'd rather do less on my last day on Earth than cuddle with the cast of Portlandia, but that's just me. I can Just Say No, can't I? But you go ahead and get to yes. Just remember, that's

all you're getting.



This looks a bit fishy



'Animal' photography

Plastic shot to look like sea creatures

This image of odd-looking sea creatures would have marine biologists baffled, but it in fact shows an everyday object shot to represent sea animals. The project, titled Plastic Pacific, was created by Australian artist Kim Preston, 33, who wanted to draw attention to the devastating effect of plastic buildup in oceans around the globe. METRO

Artist's viewpoint

"I hoped that the prettiness of the images would draw people in more than if I showed the far uglier reality."

Kim Preston, digital designer and illustrator, 33, from Melbourne Passionate about the preservation of our oceans, Preston added that "this is a photographically based rant against the irresponsible overuse of plastic. I recently obtained a cribadition explication of the property of th obtained a scuba-diving certificate in Indonesia and seeing all of the plastic caught on the reefs inspired this project."

Process of photograph

Creativity used to shoot under budget

Shot in her garden shed, Preston used a blue fabric as the backdrop and hung all the objects from a clothes rack while she photographed them. For the shower caps, she would quickly blow into them before snapping a shot with a wireless shutter release. She had planned to shoot the series inside a fish tank, but her lack of budget forced her to become more creative **METRO**



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

RIM's BlackBerry 10 is getting rave reviews. Are you buying into the hype?



@AbbeyHollinger7: A man in Halifax walking around naked... Yes his jingle bells were hanging out ;) #social

@ChristieRoseH:

Always impressed with the staff at @porterairlines, great customer service in Halifax!

@VulgarViking:

The rain has started in Halifax! Thanks for messing up my planned outdoor exercise Mother Nature! No really, thanks! :-) @ weathernetwork

@CrvstalPebbles:

Not looking forward to heading out in the rain. Dear #Halifax, why must you weather?

@LetaLowthers:

Alright Halifax Leta get this traffic moving, I'm starving. #soim-

Apocalypse now?

The end of the world may or may not be upon us, but Hollywood has been preparing us for this moment for decades. The higher the stakes, the bigger the drama, and there's no higher stakes than the fate of the entire world. So here's our picks for the best movies about the end of the world.

NED EHRBAR

1. Children of Men (2006)

Alfonso Cuarón's adaptation of P.D. James' novel about a world unraveling after women stop being able to get pregnant is a masterpiece, a gripping and hyper-realistic look at how society deals with calamity. The real tragedy is how little attention it got upon its release. Watch it now, while you still have





Stanley Kubrick made it OK to laugh in the face of possible nuclear annihilation with this pointed satire of escalation and mutually assured destruction, culminating with Slim Pickens' famous ride on a warhead.

elancholia (2011)

Dazzling visuals and an impressive, against-type performance by Kirsten Dunst buoy this divisive film from Lars von Trier about a family trying to get through a wedding while a rogue planet hurtles toward Earth threatening total annihi-



4. The Cabin in the Woods



Spoiler alert: Drew Goddard's hilarious, twistfilled take on horror movies (co-written by Joss Whedon) is more than it



A Guilt Trip down the middle lane

The Guilt Trip

Director. Anne Fletcher

Stars. Seth Rogen, Barbra Streisand



What made The Guilt Trip an interesting premise also ultimately works against it. Sure, crafting a road-trip comedy with Barbra Streisand as mother to Seth Rogen's coddled adult son may attract fans from disparate camps, but by skirting down the middle, the comedy ends up compromised for both sides. Ultimately, the Babs side wins as Streisand's overbearing Jewish matriarch makes Rogen look like he's just holding back. steve gow/metro

5. Last Night (1998)

A quiet, delightful indie precursor to Seeking a Friend for the End of the World, Don McKeller's film gives a distinctly Canadian look at the end of the world. Toronto residents have had months to prepare, so there's little need for panic.



6. The Road (2009)



A gut-punch of a film, John Hillcoat's screen adaptation is just as chilling and stark as the Cormac McCarthy novel on which it is based. The world may not actually end in this one, but from the looks of what's become of things, it might as well have

A refreshing take on the asteroid headed to Earth plot, this road movie with Steve Carell and Keira Knightley is surprisingly charming - and features a barrage of comic cameos as the main characters head out across the country with three weeks



8. On the Beach (1959)



Long before CGI could render total destruction in realistic detail, we had Gregory Peck and Ava Gardner waiting out the end in Australia after a global nuclear war in this Cold War-era drama, notable for its non-Hollywood ending.

Veek of Armageddon

Check out Metro all week lyptic proportions.



With over 160 shops and services under one roof, a visit to Nova Scotia's biggest shopping experience should be a part of everyone's holiday tradition.





AÉROPOSTALE JACKEJONES AMERICAN EAGLE Bath & BodyWorks ALDO boathouse

metronews.ca Wednesday, December 19, 2012 metr⊕ DISH



'Sexiest Man Alive' reproducing

Capping off an amazing year that's included several hit movies and a Sexiest Man Alive title, Channing Tatum is now gearing up for fatherhood. Tatum's wife, Jenna Dewan-Tatum, is expecting the couple's first child sometime next year, their rep con-

firmed to People magazine. And it may not be the last.

"I'm ready. I think she's ready," Tatum recently told the magazine. "The first number that pops into my head is three, but I just want one to be healthy and then we'll see where we go after that.'



Celeb hacker gets 10 years

Christopher Chaney, the man responsible for hacking the email accounts of more than 50 celebrities and posting their intimate photos online, has been sentenced to 10 years in prison, according to E! News.

Chaney was also ordered to pay restitution fees of \$66,179 by the judge, who admonished Chaney for his "callous disregard to his victims" during the hearing. His famous victims included Scarlett Johansson, Miley Cyrus, Jessica Alba and Mila Kunis



METRO DISH



Romeo. Romeo. wherefore art thou Beckham?



WORD

Maybe he's just not that good with a soccer ball?

It was announced this week that at only 10 years old. David and Victoria Beckham's son Romeo Beckham is the "baby face" of Burberry's spring/summer '13 campaign, joining a long list of models and stars who have fronted ads for the house, including Cara Delevingne, Edie Campbell and Eddie Redmayne. "We had such fun shooting the campaign and I think that comes through in the images, which really reflect the upbeat spirit of the collection," Burberry's creative director Christopher Bailey says.

Perhaps Burberry really wanted his dad, David Beckham, but then decided they wanted to go with someone who has more of a mature, male voice?

In other news: A 2012 coming-out recap

Who: Anderson Cooper, iournalist

How: In an email to blogger Andrew Sullivan. What was said: "The fact

w faces of the British luxury label co

is, I'm gay," Cooper wrote. "Always have been, always will be, and I couldn't be any more happy, comfortable with myself and proud." Cooper, who was the subject of rumours for years, addressed his silence in the email. "I have given some the mistaken impression that I am trying to hide something something that makes me uncomfortable, ashamed or even afraid. This is distressing because it is simply not true."

Who: Wade Davis, a cornerback who spent four pre-seasons with three NFL teams.

How: In an interview with Outsports.com.

What was said: "You just want to be one of the guys, and you don't want to lose that sense of family," Davis said about not coming out sooner. "Your biggest fear is that you'll lose that camaraderie and family." There has yet to be an openly gay player in any of the four major American professional

Who: Lee "Uncle Poodle" Thompson, redneck **How:** Just by appearing on Honey Boo Boo

What was said: Thompson's homosexuality isn't a huge to-do on the show; he's out and proud. As Alana says in the season finale, "ain't nothin' wrong with bein' a little gay.'



Drew still a kid at heart

Drew Barrymore has done a lot of growing up, but that doesn't mean she feels like an adult.

"The mistakes, the potholes, the journeys, the

bad patterns - all of it is so much clearer to me now, but I still don't totally feel like a grown-up," the 37-year-old new mom tells Allure magazine. "Maybe I never will."



Cutie divorce finalized

Zooey Deschanel's marriage to Death Cab for Cutie frontman Benjamin Gibbard is officially over, with the former couple formalizing their divorce in a Los Angeles court last week, just over a

month after separating, according to E! News. And the New Girl star appears to already be moving on, having been spotted recently walking hand-inhand with new screenwriter boyfriend Jamie Linden.





@SteveMartinToGo

Still not feeling funny, nor is funny feeling



@Sethrogen

After watching Homeland and Zero Dark Thirty, I'm really thinking the CIA should release a line of sexy lady's pantsuits.



@BryanSinger

I can't seem to tweet without misspelling something.:(



@AlbertBrooks

Gerard Depardieu gives up French citizenship and moves to Belgium. Taxes or waffles?



TRAVEL

This holiday season, think South Pole instead of North

Icy wonderland. While Santa's homeland might be on our minds right now, Antarctica's unspoiled landscape beckons travellers

DOUG WALLACE

Who owns Antarctica? The penguins, of course - several million of them (cute little devils, too). At 1.4 times the size of Canada, the seventh continent to tick off your bucket list is rich with incredible wildlife, pristine vistas and amazing history. With the season stretching from the end of November to the beginning of March, and January temps hovering at zero around the northern part of the Antarctic Peninsula, this trip south could be your chance to

be a real snowbird this winter. The starting gate

The expedition begins with an overnight in Ushuaia, a small city of 65,000 at the bottom of Argentina that bills itself as the "city at the end of the world." Just a few kilometres from Tierra del Fuego National Park, it was originally founded as a prison colony, and the old prison has been converted into a museum complex, which includes a full wing on Antarctica.

The ship

Most of the cruise ships that

serve Antarctica are a smaller variety; great for squeezing through ice-filled canals. Toronto-based Quark Expeditions has been ferrying people across the notorious Drake Passage for 20 years, with a comfortably high guest-to-crew ratio and an excellent track record. On-board experts share their knowledge of ornithology, marine biology, zoology and geology with insightful talks during downtimes on the voyage down and back, as well as throughout the trip. Photography courses help guests get that perfect shot, and a wellness program includes yoga classes and massage ther-

The crowd

A truly international crowd makes this trek - from the fleece-clad adventurers to the retirees bored with the Caribbean to the young marrieds getting in some travel miles before they start a family. "Antarctica captures people's imagination regardless of their age, and people come with different goals," says Quark expedition leader David Wood.

Visiting scientists gathering data could well accompany you on your excursions, and are eager to talk about their work.

The excursions

After two days at sea, when you reach land-ho, out come the Zodiac pontoon boats. Twice daily spins around the various harbours and bays, plus landings on islands that dot the Antarctic Peninsula as well as the continent itself.



The eco-friendliness

yond stunning.

floes, majestic birds, gorgeous

glacial ice sculptures, rocky peaks — the photo ops are be-

All Antarctica tour operators uphold the same objectives to keep the region as pristine as possible, following directives outlined in The Antarctic Treaty, which was signed in

Among other things, this involves preventing the introduction of non-native species to the



area, be it plants or disease.

Travellers step through a disinfecting boot bath getting on and off the ship. You leave zero evidence of ever having

Tours. For 2013-2014, Quark Expeditions has a few new adventures, including a Greenland cruise and a Falklands. South Georgia and Antarctica voyage that departs from Buenos Aires. It features the first-ever Polar Floating Documentary Film Festival, and was just voted one of Wanderlust Travel magazine's 50 Best Trips of 2013. Check it all out at quarkexpeditions.com.

stepped on Antarctica, except for your footprint.





Travellin' Canadian Darren Parkman tries life in the fast lane

Las Vegas. Forget gambling and partying, whizzing around a racetrack in a \$300,000 car is one of Sin City's biggest thrills



THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN Darren Parkman travel@metronews.ca

As if endless bars, glitzy shows, and nerve-racking blackjack weren't enough, there's an even more exciting way to get the adrenaline pumping in Vegas.

How about putting pedal to metal behind the wheel of a \$300,000 racing Ferrari? If you've got the nerve, the

If you've got the nerve, the skills and several hundred dollars, Dream Racing at Las Vegas Motorways is for you.

A little backstory: My first

car was a beloved '73 Pinto, so I'm no Mario Andretti behind the wheel. Still, I couldn't resist the urge to at least pretend I was, and hopefully emerge in one piece

Located less than a half hour from the strip, IV Motorways is a genuine race track, complete with grand stands and a challenging track. After a brief but intimidating car simulator session, I found myself suiting up and strapping into an honest to goodness real Ferrari F-450 GT race car.

Just the roar of the engine was enough to strike fear into my heart. Luckily, an experienced driver was right beside me in the passenger seat, shouting commands through my headset and telling me when to hit the gas. And hit the gas I did. Ever wonder what it feels like to be inside a launching rocket? I don't wonder anymore.

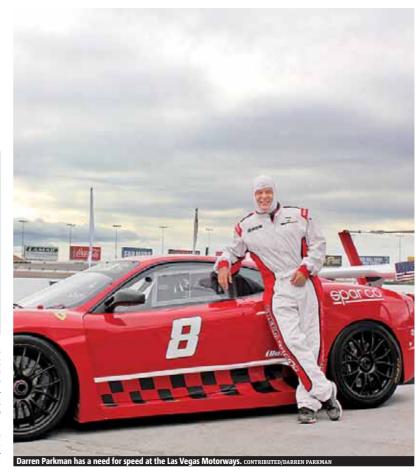
All the while, my driving instructor is yelling for me to gear up or gear down with the steering column paddle. Probably

Other Las Vegas adventures

- Indoor skydiving. Suit up and dive into a tube with a giant fan blasting you upwards. Simulates actual skydiving and free falling. The fan generates winds up to 193 kilometres per hour.
- Freemont St. zipline. Soar above the most historic street in Vegas. Flightlinez offers rides for only \$20 nightly after 6 p.m.

the single coolest moment was when I took my first corner at full throttle. Whereas most cars would probably roll multiple times at this point, this amazing Ferrari felt like it was glued to the track even on a sharp bend.

This experience is well worth the price of admission. And I don't miss that Pinto anymore.







metronews.ca Wednesday, December 19, 2012 metr⊕ **FOOD**

Fig and Maple

Something about fig and maple syrup just goes together. And when you add a little liquor, you have a delicious and warming combination that is perfect for those nights when you're curled up in front of the

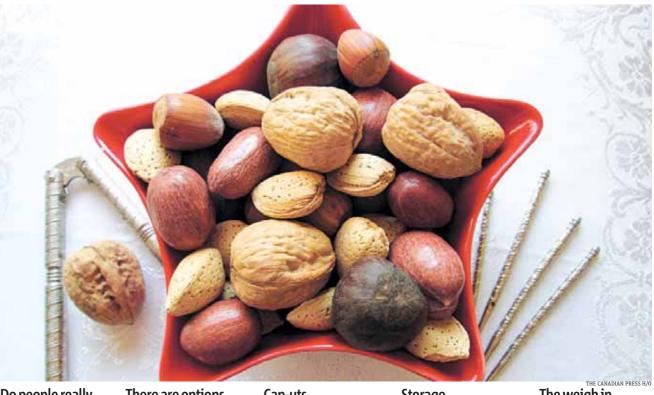
- 2 fresh or dried fig
- 1 tbsp ginger marmalade
- 1 oz hot water
- 2 oz Bombay Sapphire
- 2 oz fresh lime juice
- 2 oz ginger beer
- 1 oz maple syrup

1. In a shaker, muddle fig with ginger marmalade and water. Add Bombay Sapphire, fresh lime juice, ginger beer and maple syrup. Add ice and double strain into glass.





Roasting chestnuts on an open fire



Do people really roast chestnuts?

Yes, savs Linda Grimo of Grimo Nut Nursery in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. But the easiest way to do them is on the barbecue, she says Nuts have been part of the holiday tradition for centuries, with both religious and pagan origins cited by various sources. Although cooks tend to incorporate them in dishes throughout the year, they are a staple of holiday entertaining

There are options aside from roasting

Sautéing peeled chestnuts in a frying pan is an alternative to barbecuing. If you boil them briefly first, the nuts will "pop right out" of the skin, savs Grimo. She cooks them in butter for at least 10 minutes, adding sugar to caramelize them for a sweet treat or garlic or onions if she wants to add them to vegetable or meat dishes.

Can-uts

The only two types of nuts grown here commercially are hazelnuts and heartnuts - in very small quantities. Peanuts also are grown, but they're not really nuts. They're a legume and part of the bean family. It's a mystery to Grimo. "Nuts are so easy to farm and very profitable," she says. But farmers have been slow to pick up on the opportunity.

Storage

Store-bought nuts in the shell or in iars can be stored at room temperature, but freshly harvested nuts have a high moisture content and need to dry out. Grimo advises people who pick black walnuts, for example, to hang them in a burlap sack in the furnace room for three weeks, preferably with a small fan near them to circulate air through the bag. Chestnuts are the exception and should always be stored in the refrigerator.

The weigh in

Nuts are very good for us, says dietitian Doug Cook, and since they all have different nutrients in varying degrees, eating a variety is best. Ounce for ounce, nuts contain between 150 and 200 calories. The number of servings per person should depend on age, activity level and body weight. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ DOUG COOK, DIETITIAN AND DIREC-TOR OF THE TORONTO CHAPTER OF HEALTHCASTLE.COM





Sharability



Halfway in and having some doubts?

School switcharoo.

It's not uncommon for mixed feelings to make their way into the minds of learners

CHRISTINA PELLEGRINI

major isn't what you thought it'd be. Maybe the career op-portunities you thought you'd have haven't panned out. Or perhaps you've discovered a new interest.

Fall classes may be over, but there's still time to meet with an academic advisor and change your winter schedule to pursue a new major or specialization.

According to the University of Calgary, the majority of university students switch their majors at least once. Reasons why vary from not being hired to discovering new interests to just plain uncertainty.

What should you do if you're interested in something else? It's easy to follow your friends, study what your parents tell

you to or pursue a career based

So your college or university

on how much it pays. But you have to deal with your career choices, Toronto-based community manager Stephanie

Fusco says.

Fusco studied politics at Queen's University and hoped to go to law school since she was in high school. But in a fourth-year political communications seminar, she realized that she loved strategy, speech writing and communications

more. She graduated from Queen's and later pursued her passion and earned a post-graduate certificate in public relations from Humber Col-

lege.
"I knew I made the right choice when I found myself putting more effort into my Humber application than I was putting into worrying about whether I'd get into law school," she says. "I'm sure I'm doing what I'm supposed to do and my career is on a path I'm

very happy with."

Maybe there's an aspect of your major you love. It may take some reflection or experimentation to figure it out, but try to pursue a degree and a career in the aspect that interests you the most, Fusco adds.

What should you do if you're not sure?

Drawn to different choices

"I knew I made the right choice when I found myself putting more effort into my Humber application than I was putting into worrying about whether I'd get into law school."

Stephanie Fusco oronto-based community manager

If you're unsure about your interests or aspirations, choose an undecided major. According to the University of California, students who enter college with an undeclared major change their focus fewer times than students who declare their major. So when you do make a decision, you'll make it count.

What should you do if you weren't recruited this fall?

Many large companies have already filled their entry level or leadership program positions by now. Don't panic if you haven't been hired. Take rejection as an oppor-tunity to assess your inter-

ests, goals and options.
When an accounting
firm didn't recruit Nick
Guadagnolo last year, the then aspiring auditor and fourth-year accounting stu-dent at the Schulich School of Business enrolled in or-ganizational behaviour and marketing classes in his final semester instead.

"An accounting specialization without a CA designation was not what I wanted,' Guadagnolo says. "I excelled at, and quite frankly derived so much more pleasure from, the not-so-numerical aspects

of the BBA degree."

He studied things like marketing, crisis sports management and operating a family business. He wrote the LSAT in June, applied to law school this fall, travelled frequently and continues to work part-time in HR. For Guadagnolo, there is credence to a plan of action that doesn't involve immediately jumping into the fray. It sounds scary now, but maybe the same applies to you too.

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metronews.ca Wednesday, December 19, 2012 **SPORTS**

All in good fun for Mooseheads coach

Opposing sides.

Dominique Ducharme to be on opposite bench of young stars at top prospects game



PHII IP CROUCHER

Dominique Ducharme on one bench, Nathan MacKinnon, Ionathan Drouin and Zach Fucale on the other.

This is what fans can expect at the Home Hardware Top Prospects Game on Jan. 16 at the Metro Centre after the Halifax Mooseheads coach was named to the coaching staff for Team Orr on Tuesday.

"For once, I'll see how the other coaches feel when they play us," Ducharme said with a laugh about matching up against his three young stars.

Ducharme was one of five assistants named to the two teams on Tuesday by the Can-

adian Hockey League. Former Montreal Canadiens forward Mike McPhee is coaching Team Orr, with Ducharme and former NHL head coach and Sportsnet hockey analyst Doug MacLean as his assistants.

Don Cherry is coaching Team Cherry, with former

It was also announced Tuesday athletic therapist Diane Ouimet and equipment manager Chris MacDonald, both of the Halifax Mooseheads, will work with Team

Abeltshauser expected back next week

The Halifax Mooseheads will have overage defence-man Konrad Abeltshauser back in the lineup next

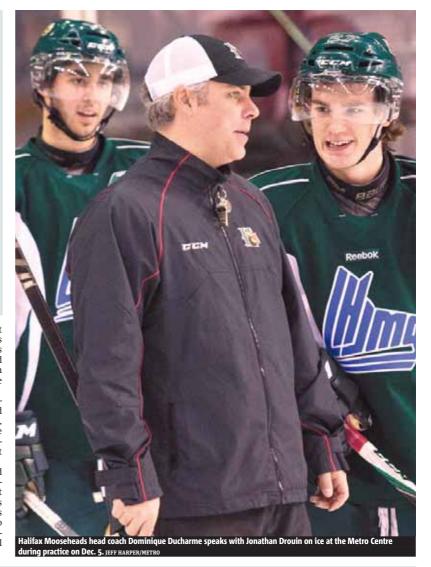
Head coach Dominique Ducharme said Tuesday his No. 1 defenceman will miss Friday's game in Saint John against the Sea Dogs, but will play Dec. 28 in Cape Breton against the Screaming Eagles.

Abeltshauser has been out of the lineup for the past month with a broken bone in his wrist. The San Jose Sharks draft pick has one goal and 26 assists in 23 games this season.

NHL tough guy and Sportsnet analyst Nick Kypreos named as one of his assistants. The others are Hockey Hall of Famer and legendary Ottawa 67s coach Brian Kilrea, and long-time team assistant Bert O'Brien.

"I will probably put in a lit-tle challenge," Ducharme said of going up against MacKinnon, Drouin and Fucale, who were previously announced as members of Team Cherry. "We'll just have fun with it."

A sold-out crowd is expected for the game, with 40 top pros-pects for next year's NHL draft taking to the ice. Team Orr is led by Portland Winterhawks defenceman Seth Jones, who along with MacKinnon, is considered a potential first overall pick in the 2013 NHL draft.



Crosby goes undercover at ball-hockey game



Sid the Kid won't let the NHL lockout keep him on the bench, even if it means returning to the game in an unlikely fash-

ion. The Penguins superstar dropped in on some ball hockey last week, donning the goalie pads and posting a shutout against his aptly named opponents, Flyers Suck.

"It was pretty unbeliev able," said Joseph Heaney, who was referee at the Dek-Star Dekhockey Center in Ohio Township, northwest of Pitts-

burgh.
"To have the greatest hockey player in the world standing next to you, it's kind of surreal that he's standing right there,

"I waited until after the game to tell everybody. He just wanted to be normal for a change and play with his friends"

Joseph Heaney, who as referee of a ball-hockey game was first to realize that Sidney Crosby was playing goal

playing."
The 24-year-old said Crosby suited up in the parking lot before the Dec. 14 game. Nobody noticed they were in the presence of celebrity until the dying minutes of the second period, when Heaney ran down the outdoor rink to make an icing call, he said.

He approached the net minder and noticed a flash of familiarity from behind his

"I got the ball from him, and I was like, 'Oh, thanks, man. I don't see you playing goalie for this team usually.' And I looked at his mask, and I was like,

"He just started laughing."

For Heaney, there's a bright side to the halted hockey season. It gave him the chance to one day tell his son about the time he shared the rink with Sidney Crosby

"I couldn't believe how cool he was." Torstar News Service



Juniors not sleeping on jet-lag issues

Travel concerns. Trip to Ufa, Russia, just one more obstacle on road to world championship

The puck drop for Canada's first three games at the world junior hockey championship in Russia is 5:30 a.m. AST.

Host city Ufa is 10 to 14 hours ahead of the Canadian players' body clocks, depending on what part of the country they're from. A Canadian junior team hasn't travelled this far, or crossed this many time zones, since the 2001 tournament in Moscow. Ufa is another 1,160 kilometres and two time zones to the southeast.

zones to the southeast.

Jet lag and travel fatigue will be major challenges, barriers as significant on the road to gold as the Russians, Swedes and Americans.

Hockey Canada enlisted the expertise of Calgary sleep specialist Dr. Charles Samuels to draw up a plan to combat jet lag and sleep deprivation.



Halifax Mooseheads, from left, Nathan MacKinnon, Jonathan Drouin and Saint John Sea Dog Jonathan Huberdeau look on during team photos last Friday in Calgary, JEEN MONTHS MARIAN DRESS

"I've met with sleep doctors, sports psychologists," Canadian head coach Steve Spott said. "I've met with just about every doctor possible."

The accepted rule is it takes a day for every hour of time difference to adapt. Samuels aims to accelerate the adjustment.

Travel fatigue gets less attention than jet lag, he says, but for athletes who travel to far-flung places a lot, it can be damaging to performance.

The cumulative effects of extensive travel fatigue the body and mind. Even though the Canadian team is only travelling to Ufa once, the distance and time on planes can catch up with them.

Samuels drew up Canada's plan from a template he created for the Vancouver Canucks in their 2011 Stanley Cup final against the Boston Bruins.

"That's an extreme example, because you're coast to coast, Boston to Vancouver,"

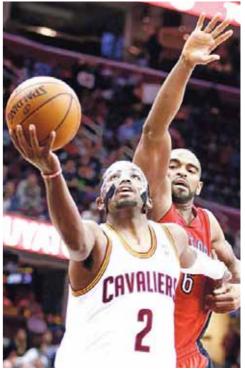
'No screwing around

The Canadian team is currently in training in Finland, a four-hour time difference from Ufa, Russia. The players were on a strict schedule from the moment the wheels went up on their flight from Calgary on Saturday.

- One of the worst things a team can do, says Samuels, is get on the plane exhausted, but it was inevitable some players would be after selection camp.
- "We really talked about on the flight, eye shades, ear plugs, noise-cancellation headphones — all the pillows and comfort you need and the plane is for rest. No screwing around," Samuels said.

Samuels said. "We take that experience and translate it to this, which is even more extreme."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Raps snap road skid in Ohio

Cavaliers point guard Kyrie Irving shoots in front of Toronto Raptors forward Alan Anderson on Tuesday night in Cleveland. On the back of Jose Calderon's season-high 23 points, the Raptors pulled out their first road win in 11 games, topping the Cavaliers 113-99. MARK DUNCAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





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metronews.ca Wednesday, December 19, 2012

Civic hits refresh button



ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Features

The new Honda Civic's fea-ture list is long, so here's some highlights: Bluetooth for audio and device hookup, heated front seats, read out and respond for text messages and navigation upgraded with voice recognition, plus a "three-view rear camera. In fact, a rearview camera is now standard on EX models



- Sales. Canada's top selling car
- Engine. 140 hp, 1.8 litre fourcylinder. Si Coupes and Sedans upgraded to 201 hp
- Location. Most models built in
- Base price (incl.destination).

Style changes

The new model flaunts a degree of exterior style and interior finesse not quite evident on the 2012 Civic. In a mid-cycle refresh like this one, about all you're able to change on the outside are front and rear fascia, hood and trunk panels and the wheels. Honda has done that and all to

Design

The look is wider and lower - slightly more sporty and premium. It now sports exterior bits you've been seeing on higher-end models, like complex headlights, black mesh grille with chrome accents, integrated fog lights (on higher trim lines) and larger, more horizontal taillights that flow into the sides of the car.

Review. New model has learned from mistakes of 2012 Civic

GOETZ

This newly minted 2013 Honda Civic sedan is one unusual automobile. Not weird like it runs on goat cheese, or some other dairy product.

Unusual in that the refresh bestowed upon it for 2013 comes only one model year after it was completely reborn. About 18 months ago, that all-new and ninth-generation 2012 Honda Civic came out to mixed reviews — not so bad that it had any problem at all retaining its mantel as Canada's top-selling passenger car.

But Honda must have been clearly spooked about its initial reception and the subsequent and serious competitive moves made by its competitors in this all-important compact car segment — Canada's largest. Toyota Corolla and Mazda3 have always battled Civic hard. but now there's a whole new and energetic crowd banging on the door (Chevrolet Cruise, Ford Focus, Hyundai Elantra, Dodge Dart, etc.)

The days when the Civic was just a car for the first time buyer are gone," says Dave Gardner, vice-president of sales and marketing for Honda Canada. "We're now appealing to a significant number of customers who are downsizing from intermediate or larger

On top of everything else it offers, it's quieter on the road thanks to new acoustic measures and the new suspension bits, which also reduce NVH. You could ask, why didn't the 2012 Civic come out the gate this way? Another question you could ask is, why don't other automakers have the cojones to react as fast and effectively to correct a vehicle that is not as good as it could be? Good on Honda to make this move, and good on Civic. Your place on top of the Canadian sales charts will surely









metronews.ca Wednesday, December 19, 2012 metr⊕ **DRIVE**



Pop open a wheelie

The golden olden days. Hobby-grade slot cars continue their cult status with children and adults alike



PII OT

Christmas morning is always fun. But it can never be as fun as it was on those magical Christmas mornings, when you were in your prime toy- yearn-

First you don't get the Santa thing. Then, Santa and Christ-mas morning are everything. Then you gradually get jaded by the whole thing and start getting up later and later on Christmas morning. The window is actually quite small for really getting into it, but when you're into it, you're into it hard.

And it was in that glorious window that Santa once dropped off for me the actual Eldon slot car racing set I feverishly desired.

Net result: best Christmas

present ever.
I still have the two slot cars that came with the set - an original Ford Mustang Fastback and a Chevrolet Corvette Sting-

ray Coupe. Back then (the mid-to-late 1960s), slot car racing sets were one of the prime Christmas

toys for boys. "You'd go to an Eaton's store back then, and there would be four or five tracks set up for kids to play and try," remembers Ernie Mossetti, who has been a slot car retailer since 1988, and a slot car aficionado virtually all his life. "I was born in 1956, and got my first slot car in 1964."

The slot car's reign on top of the toy kingdom didn't last long. Mossetti says things were pretty much over by the late 60s. Slot car sets are now just another toy among thousands. But "hobby grade" slot cars continue their cult status with adult aficionados, and some young folks as well.

Mossetti currently operates two slot car related concerns
— raceworldcanada.com and mr.slotcar.ca — the former's an online store and the latter a line of professional grade slot cars designed by Mossetti (he's an industrial designer by trade).

He notes that sets from Germany's Carrera and Britain's Scalextric continue to dominate the current market.

Mossetti says kids don't get exposed to the slot car world like they used to — there is little advertising or promotion. And these days, you have to go to a hobby store or an online store to get your actual slot car stuff. "Fortunately there are still enough dads out there who had one, and who want to buy a set for their kids ... Or say they are buying the set for their kids."

Ouch, I resemble that last

When our son, Jared, was four, he got from Santa a starter Scalextric set, with an Indy 500 theme. In retrospect, he was too young for it. Whenever he and his buddies played with it, they would simply hold the controller throttle on full blast, all the time. The beautifully detailed Indy racers were flying and crashing all over the living room. As designated first responder, I was very busy retrieving the cars and setting them back gently on the track, only to see them fly off of the track on the next lap.

But I didn't mind. They moved onto other activities eventually. Then I would have the track all to myself.





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For those without a Metro, the forecast calls for "I dunno" with a slight chance of "huhhh?"

BY BETTY MARTIN

T Aries

March 21 - April 20

You can be as adventurous as you please now, knowing that nothing bad will come of it. Make use of the Sun's final few days in sympathetic Sagittarius to have fun. Forget about yesterday, it's today that matters.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21 Money may be a little tight at the moment but that is no reason to deny yourself the good things in life. On the contrary, you will feel better about yourself if you splash out a bit — but not too much.

∐ Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Thought may be your natural medium but with love planet Venus moving through the relationship area of your chart you want to express yourself not only mentally but romantically too. Give the object of your affection your full attention.

9 Cancer June 22 - July 23

If you need help, you must ask for it. No one will think any the less of you if you request assistance. On the contrary. they will admire your maturity. Neither success nor self-worth have anything to do with separation.

Ω Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

The more you have been working on serious things, the more you owe it to yourself to have some fun. Social activities, as well as an affair of the heart, will bring you a great deal of pleasure over the next 24 hours.

W Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Today's rather unusual events will convince you that important objectives can only be reached if you are prepared to meet other people halfway. That applies not only to your allies but to your rivals too.

△ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Most of the time your head rules your heart, but today the opposite will be true. You will allow your feelings to dictate what you say and do. Nothing bad will come of it. In fact, you will thoroughly enjoy yourself.

M Scorpio

Oct. 2 04 - Nov. 22

Calm down and stop taking what other people say so seriously. Yes, of course, some individuals can be a complete pain but if you let them upset you it means they have won. It's life — learn to laugh at it.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Take your pleasures where you find them and don't give a thought to what is going on around you. Is that irresponsible? Some people may think so but you have done your bit for world peace — now you want a piece of the action.

17 Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20 Most of the time you think and behave rationally but the planets warn that your feelings could get the better of you today. There is absolutely nothing wrong with that so long as they are positive and loving feelings.

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Stick to what you do best and don't let others involve you in things you have next to no interest in. There is only so much that any one person can do and you'll do your bit better if it inspires you.

H Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20

You will find yourself up against someone who speaks and acts a bit too aggressively today but you must not react in kind. Smile, talk softly and reasonably and let them see you are beyond their reach. You win. SALLY BROMPTON

Across

- 1. Package request (abbr.)
- 4. Breakfast choice 7. Headliner
- 11. Extremely dry
- 13. Seminary subj. 14. Skin opening
- 15. Renounce 17. "Far out!"
- 18. Trucker's radio, for short
- 19. Occasions
- 26. Little Rock st.
- 27. Victory sign28. Exclamation of surprise
- 30. At no time 34. Writer Levin
- 35. Whacks, as a housefly
- 37. Silkworm 38. Perry Mason's secretary
- 40. Musical note
- 41. Toss out
- 42. Knight of Grey's Anatomy
- 43. Busy --- (3 words)
- 46. Archie Bunker's offspring 50. – the World Turns
- 51. Cut back
- 52. Careless
- 58. General vicinity
- 60. Battery sz.
- 61. Church section
- 62. Car mishap
- 63. Skillet

64. Pouch

- 1. Canadian Auto Association
- 2. Sphere3. "I Know What You Last Summer'
- 4. Long, long time
- 5. Smart
- 6. Jane Lynch series
- 7. She played Emily Hartley on The Bob Newhart Show (init.)

58

25

15

- 9. I smell — (2 words)
- 10. Lipstick colours
- 12. Recipe direction
- 16. Survivor network
- 20. Moving vehicles
- 21. Sooner than, poetically
- 22. Eager
- 23. Dried
- 24. Circus barker
- 25. Farm mother

60

- 29. Sandwich filler 31. Part of speech
- 32. A great lake
- 33. Take the subway
- 35. Indian dress
- 36. Maria (coffee liqueur)
- 39. Common paper sz. 44. Tree fluid
- 45. Business abbr.
- 46. Pleased
- 47. Knowledge
- 48. Mike with Mike Bullard
- 49. Memo abbr.
- 53. Half a Teletubbie
- 54. McShane or Ziering 55. The Hour - 22 Minutes
- 56. Eggs
- 57. Winter mo.
- 59. One Day a Time

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7	1	8	3	0	2	9	5	1
6	4	2	7	5	8	8	1	4
6	3	5	4	1	9	8	7	1
1		9	2	7	4	3	6	
3	7	4	5	8	6	1	2	1
2	5	6	9	3	1	4	8	1
5	6	7	8	4	3	2	0	d
4	2	1	6	9	5	7	3	1
Ħ	9	3	1	2	7	5	4	1

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5					9	8	4	
		1		2		6		
	2	6	4					9
7	9			3			8	
						7		5
					1	2		

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